

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

512.23
1933—THE OTWELL IRIS FIELDS—1933
CARLINVILLE, ILLINOIS



Sweetheart of My Boyhood

The Rose Still Grows
Beyond The Wall

"Near shady wall a rose once grew,
Budded and blossomed in God's free
light,
Watered and fed by morning dew,
Shedding its sweetness day and night.

As it grew and blossomed fair and tall,
Slowly rising to loftier height,
It came to a crevice in the wall,
Thru which there shone a beam of light.

Onward it crept with added strength,
With never a thought of fear or pride
It followed the light thru the crevice's
length
And unfolded itself on the other side.

Scattering fragrance far and wide,
Just as it did in days of yore
Just as it did on the other side; ~~TRY~~
Just as it will for evermore.

RECEIVED

★ JAN 25 1933 ★

A SURE RECIPE TO MAKE WOMEN'S BEAUTIFUL agriculture.

Go into the sunniest part of your front yard and lay out a generous flower bed. With bare hands—plant it with seeds and plants and bulbs. Ground not too rich. Take the sod clear away. Very soon the sun and soil will join to produce mystery in that spot. No one has ever yet quite been able to fathom the secret. Visit and watch it and talk and dream and pray about it; for it is to make you beautiful. When the blossoms come—love them, study them, tell the neighbors about them, and when John comes home take him by the hand and lead him to them. Then hold your hands underneath the blossoms and talk to them. Call them all the sweet names you can think of. Open your soul to their inspirations and thank God for this beautiful world. "Beauty begets beauty." "Love begets love"—"And as a man (or woman) thinketh in his heart so is he." Let your bare hands come in contact with the soil. Let your bare face bask in the sunshine, and let your soul be open to God's love and care, and you will grow more and more beautiful with each succeeding year.

I knew a woman who would rise very early in the morning, just when the world was waking up, to work among her flowers. She would take a trowel, or case knife, or a fork and dig among her flowers, and would drop some seeds here and some there, then she would go over to a clump of Irises and take out a rhizome and put it in a soft spot and step her foot on it. Many times I said to her, "Do you think they will grow?" "Oh, yes, I'm sure they will."—She had done it so many times before. I have seen her go up to a climbing rose bush and take a mature bud between her hands and with her warm breath and warm fingers, iron out the petals until it was fully blown. Then she would call it all the sweet names that she knew. She would say, "Aren't you pretty? Oh, aren't you pretty though?" She worked among her flowers so long and she loved them so much that to me, she became the most beautiful woman in the world.

And in all our married life I never knew her to be afraid—afraid of rain, or storm, or poverty, or sickness. And when her Pilot came she told her loved ones all good-bye and went out to meet Him face to face—unafraid.

WILL B. OTWELL.

Instruction for Planting—Full instructions for planting and care of Irises are included in every order shipped. A picture showing proper depth will be included.

Early Orders—It used to be that we did our Christmas shopping the night before. Now we begin three months before. It is a great help to us when you place your orders for Irises early. Then all the office work can be done in advance. One order wouldn't amount to so much, but when they come in by the basketful in one day, it makes us happy to hear from you—even while the snow is on the ground.

Only One 50c Plant. Dr. Burchfield of Michigan originated the big tall fragrant Red and named it Shiwassee. I bought all the plants except 4 and gave \$5.00 each. This beauty is offered for the first time at 50c each, \$5.00 per doz. This is the only variety in my entire nursery that sells for more than 25c each.

Be sure to see it when you come.

W. B. O.

How Women May Become Beautiful—Be sure to read the recipe for making women beautiful. It costs nothing and fills your life with the finer impulses. It is personal to you.

When Shall We Come?—The early varieties begin blooming the first week in May. During the last two weeks in May is reception time at Otwell's. I can't give you the exact dates so far ahead, but any days between the 15th and 30th will be worth coming. It isn't often that you can see a million stalks of Iris bloom at one time, but last year the fields were a panorama of bloom—25 solid acres in two hundred different combinations of color. On May 18th, 1800 automobiles came into the Iris Fields and on Sunday, May 25th, 3000 cars came into the fields—loaded with as fine a lot of people as it has ever been my pleasure to meet. Some few arrive like their lives depended on it and as a rule the fastest driver has the least to do when he gets there. But the great majority of visitors enter the driveways slowly and hundreds of cars are parked in the blue grass pasture while the folks stroll down the Iris roads and rest themselves amid the stretches of loveliness. Everybody is welcome. Even the crazy drivers are welcome because we hope if they come often enough they will learn to do better.

By all means park your car and spend an hour or two talking to the flowers and listening to their words of wisdom and beauty.



Dreaming With Her Eyes Open

This fair maiden from a nearby college is filling her soul with the cosmic, iridescent loveliness that comes only when you lend yourself to the beauty and inspiration that surrounds you.

The beauty of her face is only surpassed by the beauty of her soul and you, too, may come into this same realm by loving them as she does.

Thirty thousand Princess Beatrice growing in one block. Mrs. Calvin Coolidge has plants from this block, growing at her home in Northhampton.

W. B. O.

Our Mail—It was the Otwell postage stamps that gave Carlinville free mail delivery and every day during Iris time the post office sends to our warehouse for our packages. Great is the blessing of Uncle Sam's postal service.

Please look over the full page of Bargain Collections and see if some of them do not answer your requirements.

It is usually cheaper to buy that way, as we often take up hundreds of collections at one time. That lessens the expense of digging. I have used lots of study to make the collections so they will fit all conditions and all purses and give you the most color and harmony for your money.

Iris Beauty—Plant fewer sorts and plant more of one sort if you wish to have real Iris Beauty. Plant at least three of a kind and, better yet, a dozen of each kind.

Our Specialty—Otwell Iris Field contains nothing but tall bearded Irises. We grow nothing but Irises, but we grow lots of them and we send them into every state.

Improvements—How do we improve our plants? Each year we select the tallest and largest and most fragrant specimens and propagate from them. You will find your flowers improving just like the farmer makes his seed corn better—by the same identical process. Livestock, fruits, vegetables and flowers show marked improvement by this same method.

This Iris Folder—It would be an easy matter to go to a print shop and get a big catalogue printed—with lots of fine, expensive pictures and in the end you would have it to pay for. But this little folder tells the story in simple language and allows me to sell the Irises much cheaper. I have hundreds of pretty, attractive snapshots—taken in my own fields and I wish I could bring them all to you, but the few little ones that I am able to squeeze in will give you some idea of our fields. Twenty-five solid acres.

Our Prices—We don't let others undersell us and we do not know of any firm that grows better stock. Everything is guaranteed to please you or your money will be refunded.

12 of a Kind—Where the folder quotes Irises at one dollar per dozen, it means a dozen of one kind. Sometimes we must travel a mile or two taking up a rhizome here and one there to fill out a dozen and such cases the plants are charged at the single rate. To get the dozen rate it is necessary to order a dozen of one kind.

Varieties—There are more than 3000 varieties in cultivation, but two hundred will cover the best of them.

You can part with your money very fast by buying new and untried high priced sorts. Many new ones cost \$10 each. Some \$50.

But why throw your money away?—Why pay ten dollars for a new pink Iris when twenty-five cents will buy as good or better in some tried and true older sort?

My fields comprise about two hundred different varieties. I do not try to keep up with the new and high priced novelties.

Some new ones are better than some of the old ones. Also many of the old standard varieties are far better and healthier than lots of the new ones.

Improvements—We are continually improving our old varieties by selection. Taller stalks. Larger blossoms. More fragrant flowers—more outstanding in every way.

We Pay Postage—All quotations in this folder are postage paid and satisfaction guaranteed.

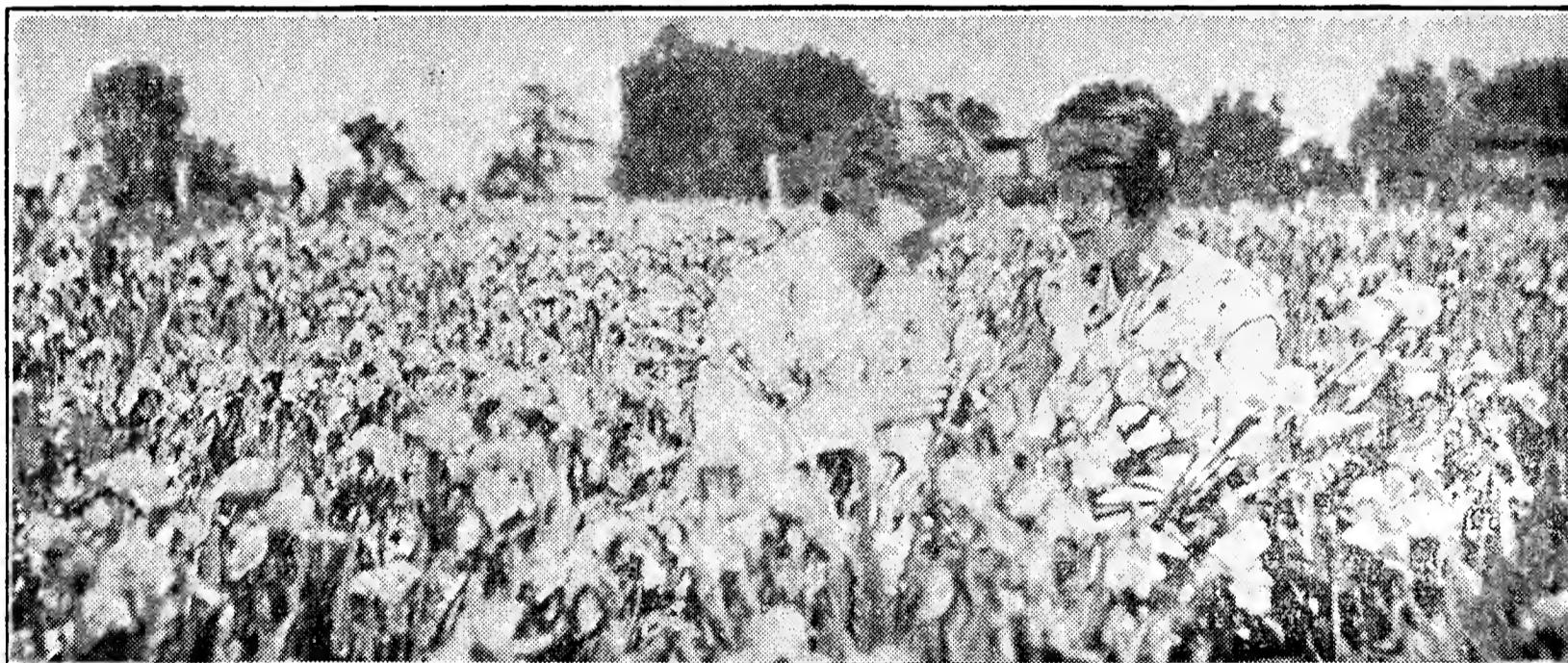
More Than a Million—Our Iris fields contain more than a million plants and only one is priced above 25 cents. Most all of them can be bought as low as 25 cents each, or one dollar per dozen.

You Are Invited—You are cordially invited to see The Otwell Iris Fields in May. If you never saw one million plants in bloom, then you didn't see our fields last May. Bring your neighbors along and come prepared to study all the varieties while in bloom.

Terms—All orders are cash. No shipments made C. O. D.

When We Ship—Most orders are dug and shipped same day received. We ship Irises every month when ground is not frozen—except when in bloom. We do not like to dig when plants are in bloom.

Some prefer to set Irises in March and April, and such will usually bloom in May.



In the beauty of the lilies, God transforms both you and me! Flowers and women are two beautiful inspirations that are always found together. Each one helps to bring out the loveliness of the other.

Many, many high school boys come to the Iris Fields and, with note books and kodaks, spend hours studying the many different varieties, and lots of men are just as cranky about them as the women. Please study the above pretty little snapshot—taken in the midst of a block of 50,000 lovely Caprice—and see if you can tell any other reason why the boys like to come to the Otwell Iris Fields.

W. B. O.

Be sure to order at least one Red Collection.

Don't get impatient—I am just as anxious to please you, both as to quality, price and promptness, as you can be. Sometimes it happens that we send one of your boxes one day and another one the next day, so be patient until time enough has elapsed to hear.

Don't Scold—There are lots of things I like more than a scolding. I make mistakes—I hope you don't, but I suspect you do. I want you to write me about mine, but please, please don't scold.

PLANTED BY APRIL 20th SHOULD BLOOM IN MAY

TEN CHEAP AND BEAUTIFUL IRIS COLLECTIONS

Please study these over and see which ones meet your requirements. Plants are cheaper in a collection because it is more economical to dig that way. In digging collections we often dig a hundred collections at a time—take them to the warehouse and pack them. But for single orders we must take a basket and spade and travel over the fields—and it is the work

that counts up. So if you can find what pleases you in the following collections, well and good, but if not then order from the general list of varieties and all your wants will be carefully looked after and in either case you place us under obligations to you. Our whole effort is to furnish you lots of beauty for little money and get you to tell your friends about us.

NIGHTINGALE IRIS COLLECTION ONLY 50c

At our Iris show in May the Nightingale of Illinois sang your old familiar songs—Silver Threads Among the Gold, When You and I Were Young, My Old Kentucky Home and Carry Me Back to Old Virginia, and she was dressed in Pink and Lavender with a splash of Red around the throat. Sweet beyond words and 2500 people arose as one man and carried away, silently and sacredly, emotions that make for the better things in life. She sang amidst 10,000 stalks of Otwell Iris blooms beautifully arranged by forty women of my town. I scarce expect to see or hear again such loveliness and such pathos and surely in the songs and in the flowers God transforms both you and me.

To commemorate this panorama of beauty, I am bringing to you my sweetest and cheapest Iris Collection. Three large, very, very fragrant, Magenta Reds (my favorite Red); three large, tall, fragrant, fifty-cent Pink Lavenders—

voted by five hundred visitors the most beautiful Iris in our entire fields. Then I am putting in two beautiful black Crimsons in appreciation of your promptness and prepaying this to you for only fifty cents, or three collections for a dollar bill. And when they come, plant them with your own bare hands where the sun can kiss them into loveliness and fragrance and as you love them and talk to them you, too, will become more beautiful as the years pass by.

This is the sweetest and the cheapest little assortment that I have ever offered you from my fields of a million Irises. I doubt if there is an Iris collection in the United States that will find its way into more hearts and homes this summer than the Nightingale. Fifty thousand people visited us last May. Won't you come next time? **WILL B. OTWELL.**

Number 2—\$1.50. Fifteen beautiful varieties. All different. All labeled. Also 2 Red Irises for prompt orders. Four plants of My Favorite Iris—20 in all—\$4.00 worth of plants—Parcel post prepaid anywhere in the United States for \$1.50. This and other unusual offers are made possible because we have a million plants and this collection shows you what a lot of value you can get for a little money.

Friendship Collection—\$1.00. 4 Beautiful White and Violet, 4 large, fragrant Magenta Reds, 4 stately Blues, also 1 Rosy Gem for prompt orders. Prepaid to you for only \$1.00.

Rosy Gem Collection—\$1.00. 3 Sweet Rosy Gem, 3 large, tall, fragrant Lavender—(The highest scoring Iris in the United States)—3 beautiful Yellow, 3 large, very, very fragrant Magenta Reds. Also 1 exquisite Iris (my selection) for prompt orders. Prepaid only a dollar bill.

White Collection—\$1.00. 4 Different varieties of 3 each—(12). All very fragrant. Also 1 Red Iris for prompt orders—only. \$1.00. Plenty of white brings out the other colors.

Collection Superb—\$2.00. 2 Reds, 2 Lavender, 2 White and Pink, 2 Sweet Rosy Gem, 2 White and Violet, 2 pretty Yellow, 2 Beau-

tiful Monsignor, 2 Quaker Lady, 1 sweet Cattleya Rose Iris for prompt orders. I call it superb because there is nothing nicer and more beautiful in our entire nursery. This collection is heaped up, pressed down and running over with iridescent loveliness. You can't help but love it—sent to you prepaid for only \$2.00.

Birthday Collection—\$2.00. Everybody has a birthday and this collection is arranged to make you happy. Three Magenta red Caprice (Improved), three Quaker Lady, three Rhein Nixe, three Yellow, three Fairy (white), three Darius, three Rosy Gem. Plant this where all the neighbors can see it. Only \$2.00, postpaid.

Number 10 Collection—\$5.00. I have saved the biggest collection until the last. 100 choice Irises, 10 different varieties. Cheap doesn't mean quality but price. Only first-class stock sent out at any price. This huge assortment is meant for those who have plenty of ground and want lots of color in a short time. You will be delighted with this Number 10 Collection. Postpaid only \$5.00.

P.S.—Whatever else you call for, be sure to plant at least one Sweet Nightingale in the sunniest spot of ground you have. Address Otwell Iris Fields, Carlinville, Ill.



Many, many delegations visit the Otwell Iris Fields in May. Here is a delegation of the choicest people from White Hall, Illinois, getting ready to eat dinner in the front yard. Fifty of them came together, ate together, viewed the fields together, and went away in a solid delegation. They are coming one hundred strong next time.

LIST OF SOME OUTSTANDING STANDARD VARIETIES

In the descriptions of Iris, S. refers to the "Standards" or upstanding petals and F. refers to the "Falls" or petals that droop.

All varieties on this page may be shipped at any time.

Apache—Large, rusty red. Different and new. Admired by everyone. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Albert Victor—A rich lavender-blue self; very sweetly scented. Vigorous and free flowering. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Alcazar—S. light bluish-violet; F. deep brilliant purple, bronze veined throat. Very tall, stout well branched stems bearing many flowers. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Afterglow—Soft grayish lavender-pink shading to buff. Vigorous, strong and well branched. Very free flowering and attractive. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Bridesmaid—Snow white, modest and pretty, 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Beauty—Light blue and white. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Crimson King (Improved)—Beautiful red crimson, almost black. Fragrant. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Celeste—Pale blue-lavender. Tall, beautiful, one of the best. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Caprice (Improved)—The best Magenta red I have ever grown. Very sweetly scented. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Crusader—A large violet-blue self, the falls being only slightly deeper. Strong, tall, well-branched, erect vigorous grower. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Darius—S. rich yellow; F. white, heavily reticulated purple. An old, free flowering iris of merit with a distinct color combination that is very effective in mass. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Eugene Sue—A large soft yellow. Very striking. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Eldorado—A yellow and heliotrope blend with shades of bronze and violet-purple. Very free flowering, medium-sized flower, very striking in color. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Florentine—Creamy white, sweetly scented. Very large, profuse bloomer. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Fairy—White, narrowly margined pale blue; sweetly scented. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Flavescens—Tall, handsome cream. One of the oldest and best creams. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Fairy Queen—White and lavender, delicate shade. Very pretty. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

German Purple—Thrifty purple. Very productive and striking in mass planting. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Harley Queen—Beautiful and striking white and blue. On the same order as Rhein Nixe. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Isolene—S. silvery rose, flushed bronze; F. mauve, shot and veined with gold. Sweetly scented. A distinctive and charming iris with fair habits, producing flowers of good substance. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Juniata—A clear violet-blue, almost self. Sweetly scented. Vigorous, free flowering, and very effective for a tall mass. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Lohengrin—S. pure light analine-blue; F. bright pale violet. A silvery pink effect. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Madam Chereau—White frilled blue. More than a hundred years old, but nothing has been found so good in white and blue. Very tall and attractive. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Mrs. H. Darwin—An outstanding white that should be in every garden. Fragrant as Lilies

of the Valley. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Ma Mie—S. white, frilled, violet; F. white, penciled and margined violet. On the lines of Madam Chereau, but larger and better. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Mary Garden—S. tan, suffused delicate lavender; F. long, drooping, creamy-white minutely dotted and veined rich maroon. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Monsignor—Large, tall, rose red purple. Very striking. You will love it. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Madam Paquette—Red like Caprice. Fragrant. Beautiful. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Mrs. Allen Gray—S. delicate lilac-pink; F. deeper shade. Very free flowering and desirable for massing. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Blue Jay—Rich blue. Tall, late and very desirable. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Nibelungen—S. rich fawn changing to golden buff; F. red-purple on bronze. Very handsome, of vigorous growth. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Purple King—An iris of great beauty. Nothing to surpass it in our nursery. Early, large, tall, fragrant, everything good. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Pallida Dalmatica—A beauty of outstanding virtue. Tall, fragrant, of light sky blue lavender. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Princess Beatrice—Delicate silky lavender-blue self with flaring falls, waved at edge; sweetly scented. A strong, vigorous grower. A flower of heavy substance and a satiny texture lasting long in flower. The highest scoring iris in the United States. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Pallida Speciosa—S. light lavender; F. dark purple. Beautiful, tall. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Parisiana—S. white, thickly dotted and shaded purple; F. white, fringed pale creamy white, margined purple-lilac. A vigorous, large, free flowering variety of unusual coloring. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Quaker Lady—S. smoky lavender, shaded yellow; F. blue and gold with bronze and yellow markings at base. A beautiful, free flowering blend of medium size with rare form and finish. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Queen of May—Tall, delicate, lovely pink. Very sweetly scented. Very large, bright and free flowering and the most charming of the older pinks. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Rosy Gem—S. yellow; F. blue-violet. Very beautiful. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Rhein Nixe—S. pure white; F. deep violet-blue, edged blue. A very desirable old variety and one of the best in its class. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Sky Blue—Voted by 500 visitors to be the most beautiful iris in the entire field of a million irises. Very tall, very large, very fragrant, of a pink lavender shade. Succeeds from Michigan to Texas in all kinds of soil. A real outstanding beauty. Plant a dozen in a prominent place and they will make you happy. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

San Souci—S. gold; F. bronze. A big success everywhere. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Shakespeare—A striking red. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Black Prince—Standards and falls intense black-purple. 1 plant, 25c; 3 plants, 50c; 12 plants, \$1.00.

Archeveque—S. rich deep purple maroon; F. flaring, velvety raisin purple tinged crimson. 25c each.

Argynnis—S. yellow; F. velvety, dark violet-carmine paling at border. 25c each.

Barrelane—A blue toned lavender self, with a red violet flush on the falls. 25c each.

Col. Candelot—S. a golden reddish-brown overlaid with mauve; F. horizontal, rich velvety pansy violet. 25c each.

Caporal—A bright reddish self, reproducing a rich red effect. 25c each.

Carthusian—S. bluish-lavender; F. slightly darker, brown markings at base; sweetly scented. 25c each.

Cavalier—S. fine clear blue; F. deep velvety blue-purple. 25c each.

Cluny—S. floppy, pale lilac-blue; F. drooping, deeper shade. 25c each.

Colias—A light yellow self. 25c each.

Corrida—A clear light blue self. 25c each.

Cretonne—S. velvety pale bronze-purple; F. rich red-maroon. 25c each.

Dalila—S. creamy white; F. red-purple. 25c each.

Dejah—S. dull silvery-blue; F. bright mauve-blue. 25c each.

Drake—A pale blue self of a satiny texture. 25c each.

Dream—A large clear pink self. 25c each.

Ed. Michael—S. white; F. rosy violet. 25c each.

Empress—Clear deep violet-blue with a silvery sheen. 25c each.

Feronia—S. soft rosy-bronze; F. rose-crimson. 25c each.

Fro—S. deep rich gold; F. velvety bronze-crimson. Sweetly scented. 25c each.

Georgia—Uniform cattleya-rose self. 25c each.

Hermosa—Beautiful lavender pink. 25c each.

Hesperis—S. light drab; F. very dark red-purple. 25c each.

Imperator—S. clear violet tinted buff; F. reddish-violet. 25c each.

Jacquesiana—S. orange-crimson shaded copper; F. flaring, velvety rich deep maroon. 25c each.

Juniata—A clear violet-blue self. Sweetly scented. 25c each.

Lady Byng—A clear pale lavender self of pink effect. 25c each.

Lancelot—Pale rosy-mauve. 25c each.

Madam Cheri—A violet pink of good form. 25c each.

Madam Chobaut—S. cream, shaded buff and pink, edged lilac; F. white edged violet. Sweetly scented. 25c each.

Medrano—S. reddish copper shaded violet; F. dark crimson-purple. 25c each.

Mildred Presby—S. white, flushed pale rose-lavender; F. rich dark velvety pansy-violet. 25c each.

Miranda—A large rich violet-blue self. 25c each.

Morning Splendor—S. Petunia-violet; F. rich raisin red. 25c each.

Mrs. Hetty Matson—S. Purple-bronze, showing buff; F. broad rich crimson-purple. 25c each.

Mt. Penn—S. lavender-rose; F. crimson-lilac. 25c each.

Muzeris—S. clear apricot flushed old rose; F. bright rose crimson. 25c each.

Opera—S. dark red; F. wine red. One of the very finest irises. 25c each.

Princess Victoria Louise—S. light yellow; F. brilliant madder-crimson, margined yellow. Very fine. 25c each.

Professor Seeliger—A deep wine red self. 25c each.

Prosper Laugier—S. tan or light bronze-red; F. velvety ruby purple. 25c each.

Queen Caterina—Pale lavender-violet self; very attractive sheen. 25c each.

Red Riding Hood—S. rosy-violet; F. bright pansy violet. 25c each.

Robin—S. bluish rose; F. rich red crimson. Beautiful. 25c each.

Rosalba—A deep rose red. Beautiful in clump or single. 25c each.

Rose Unique—Violet rose. 25c each.

Ruby Perry—S. deep rose-purple; F. slightly deeper shade. 25c each.

Rugajo—A bright red iris. One of the finest. 25c each.

Seminole—S. dark red; F. rich velvety crimson. 25c each.

Sindjikha—S. deep dull lavender; F. lavender-purple. Sweetly scented. 25c each.

Steepway—A smooth purple tinted flower, slightly flushed peacock-blue, apricot and pale green. 25c each.

Susan Bliss—Rich rose-pink self with a delicate purplish sheen. 25c each.

Troost—S. beautiful deep rosy pink; F. a shade lighter. 25c each.

Virginia Moore—A clear yellow self. 25c each.

White Knight—A beautiful snow white without markings; sweetly scented. 25c each.

Wyomissing—S. creamy white; suffused soft rose; F. deep rose at base. 25c each.

Zilia—A uniform shade of dark lavender-blue, overlaid rose, almost a self. 25c each.

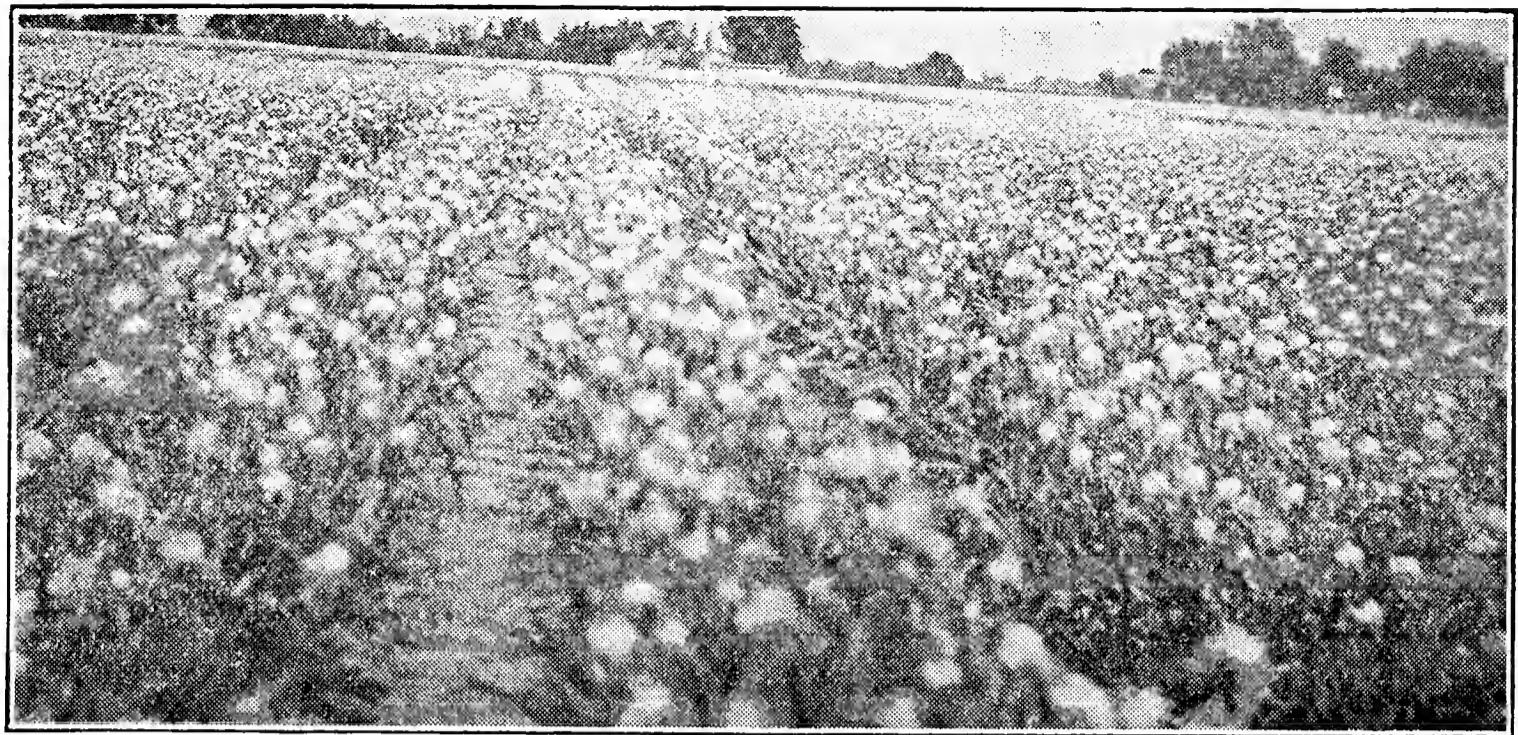
IRISES PLANTED BY APRIL 20th SHOULD BLOOM IN MAY

VERY PERSONAL TO YOU

This is my personal invitation to you and your folks to visit the **Otwell Iris Fields** in May. No charges of any kind. Large blue grass pastures to park in. Adjoins the city limits. Twenty-five acres in solid Irises. More than a million plants. They are for **you** to enjoy. 50,000 visitors last May and no congestion. No finer people in the world than those you meet here. And when you write me, tell me how I can improve this booklet (fifty thousand printed) and when you see the fields, tell me how I can make them more beautiful.

Thank you for everything.

WILL B. OTWELL,
Carlinville, Illinois.



RED COLLECTION

My Reddest Iris Collection

Please lose yourself in contemplation of one solid block of a quarter of a million red Irises.

I began several years ago to prepare for this collection.

This snapshot gives you but a faint idea of its extent and its beauty. When you visit our fields, you must see the **Red Block**. It was planted for you. Early in the morning, just when the world is waking up, I go many, many times to the center of this block and try to visualize what paradise will look like. But my poor language fails me when I try to tell you about it. You must come and see it with your own eyes. I builded better than I knew. I doubt if in all the Iris world there is a more gorgeous, more dazzling, more beautiful flower block, than this one.

Fifty thousand people came to see us last May. Every one was welcome, without money and without price. No charges of any sort.

But when you come next time, please park your car in the blue grass pasture and walk slowly down the paths, where I have gone a thousand times, and when you arrive at the **Red Block**, give yourself over to loving meditation and contemplate your life and its wondrous surroundings, and your face and soul will bear evidence of more beauty and grandeur than it ever knew before.

But they should not all stay here. They should be planted in yards of ten thousand flower lovers. And in a few years they will multiply into millions.

Accordingly, I have tried to make up the best and the cheapest **Red Collection** that I know how.

I will send you four Magenta reds, four a little darker, and four more, still darker, and four very, very dark reds. Then for prompt orders I will include two plants of beautiful pinks. All labeled, all beautiful. Postpaid for only one dollar and fifty cents. (\$1.50). This Red Collection would retail for \$4.50.

I know you will love this unusual and beautiful collection.
Thank you.

WILL B. OTWELL,
Carlinville, Illinois.

P. S.—Carlinville is 59 miles north of St. Louis and reached by hard roads from four directions. Be sure to come see us in May. W. B. O.

You can place your order in mid-winter or any time for anything in this folder and plants will be sent you at right time.

PLANTED BY APRIL 20th SHOULD BLOOM IN MAY



This picture gives you some idea of how the Iris fields looked in May. Twenty-five solid acres of dazzling beauty, in two hundred different combinations of color. 'Twas a sight sought out and viewed by 50,000 people during the month of May. Many delegations from surrounding cities came to the fields.

Five hundred visitors voted Sky Blue the most beautiful Iris in the field—with fragrant Magenta Red Caprice (Improved) a close second. So that if you should plant a dozen of each sort in a sunny spot in your yard you would always thank me.

Please look closely while I tell you about the picture: Away down toward the far end on the left quarter of a mile, are two blocks of 50,000 Sky Blue. A little closer, in the dark square, are in full bloom 50,000 fragrant Magenta Red Caprice Improved. Near the elm tree, on the right, is a solid block of 200,000 "My Favorite." And farther to the left are several acres of Rhein Nixe, Princess Beatrice, Quaker Lady, and dozens of other varieties. Real near you on the left are 8000 red Opera, and on the right—25,000 more reds. With a little imagination and this kodak picture you can visualize this panorama of beauty to which Flower Lovers of many states journey during the last half of May each year and all are welcome.

Immediately in front of you is "Lover's Promenade." Down this cinder drive and walk go untold numbers of couples, whispering to each other the sweetest story ever told. Just now this shy maiden is telling him that the

sweetest picture she has ever seen is on their right. "Not so, my dear," says he. "The sweetest thing I have ever seen is immediately upon my left." The bloom of youth and beauty find dear companionship amongst the loveliness of a million Irises. Just when the world is waking up—real early in the morning—when the dew of night has kissed them into beauty and fragrance—many, many automobile loads of Flower Lovers come. And all through the day until night has let down its curtains they keep coming—and all are very welcome. My mail is loaded with letters saying thank you. Thank you. Thank you. And that makes me ask the Dear Lord to give me strength to do better than I did the day before. This is my personal invitation to you to come as often as you will and stay as long as you care to.

Before you go to bed tonight, read over again the sure recipe to make women beautiful. And when your Irises begin to bloom—associate with them, dig around them, love them and call them all the sweet names you can think of and you too will grow in beauty as the years come and go.

WILL B. OTWELL **Carlinville, Illinois**

Irises in this Folder—planted in the spring up to April 20th, should bloom in May.

W. B. O.



A Lovely Corner of Pinks at Otwell's